



German Place Names Key

German	English	Comment
Banat-Schwaben	The Banat Swabes	former German population in southern Hungary
Bayern	Bavaria	south German state
Böhmen	Bohemia	northern Czech Republic, which had a German-speaking minority
Böhmen-Mähren	Bohemia+Moravia	the Czech Republic, which had a German-speaking minority
Brandenburg	Brandenburg	Berlin area
Braunschweig	Brunswick	city and duchy of northern Germany
Bremen	Bremen	major German port off the North Sea
Bukowina	Bukovina	Austro-Hungarian province with few German speakers
Deutschland	Germany	until 1871, Germany was a region but not a single state
die Donaumonarchie	Danube Monarchy/Austro-Hungarian Empire	another name for the Austro-Hungarian Empire, since the Danube River runs through it
Elsaß/Elsass	Alsace	(see Elsass-Lothringen)
Elsaß-Lothringen	Alsace-Lorraine	Formerly German-speaking, but annexed by France centuries ago; Germany and France fought over it repeatedly. The population today mostly speaks French.
Flandern	Flanders	Dutch-speaking part of Belgium; only a little sliver of territory is German-speaking
Friesland	Frisia	The Frisians are first cousins of the English and Germans, spread along parts of the North Sea coast. These regions speak a language closely related to English.
Galizien	Galicia	former Austrian-ruled province, with a small German minority at the time
Hamburg	Hamburg	top German port
Hanover	Hannover	former German state in the northwest
Hesse	Hesse or Hessia	central German region on the Rhine
das Heilige Römische Reich	the Holy Roman Empire	medieval empire containing what would become Germany and Austria
Holland	Holland	capital region of the Netherlands, a Dutch-speaking area
Holstein	Holstein	purely German-speaking part of the old Duchy of Schleswig-Holstein
Kärnten	Carniola	Austrian Alpine region
Köln	Cologne	northwestern German city





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Krain	Carniola	Austrian province now part of Slovenia
das Küstenland	the Littoral	Austro-Hungarian province on the Adriatic Sea
Lothringingen	Lorraine	part of Alsace-Lorraine, now mostly French-speaking
Mähren	Moravia	southern Czech Republic, which had a German-speaking minority
Mecklenburg	Mecklenburg	German region on the Baltic Sea
München	Munich	capital of Bavaria
die Niederlande	the Netherlands	not German at all: they speak Dutch, which is related to English and German.
Niederösterreich	Lower Austria	Austrian province
Niedersachsen	Lower Saxony	northern German province
die Nordsee	the North Sea	sea between Britain, Germany, Denmark and Norway
Oberösterreich	Upper Austria	Austrian province
Oldenburg	Oldenburg	German port off of the North Sea
Österreich	Austria	core of Holy Roman Empire and later Austro-Hungarian Empire
Österreich-Ungarn	Austria-Hungary/ Austro-Hungarian Empire	Austrian Empire became the Austro-Hungarian Empire at the insistence of the Hungarians.
Ostfriesland	East Frisia	region on the Dutch border where German is spoken and sometimes the East Frisian language as well
Ostpreußen/Ostpreussen	East Prussia	former eastern German province
die Ostsee	the Baltic Sea	sea between Sweden, Germany and Poland
die Pfalz	the Palatinate	region on the west central Rhine
Pennsylfaanisch	Pennsylvania Dutch	American dialect of German, still spoken by the Amish
Pommern	Pomerania	former German province on the Baltic Sea
Posen	Posnań	Polish-majority Polish province under German rule for several centuries
Prag	Prague	formerly bilingual German-Czech city, now Czech capital Praha
Preußen/Preussen	Prussia	Originally in the far east of Germany, it came to annex most of northern Germany in the 1700's and 1800's.
das Reich	Imperial Germany	800's - 1806: the Holy Roman Empire 1871-1918: Imperial Germany 1939-1945: the infamous Third Reich. The word <i>reich</i> can refer to any empire.





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Rheinland-Pfalz	Rhineland-Palatinate	current German province
Sachsen	Saxony	Saxony usually refers to a German kingdom north of the Czech Republic, but can also mean parts of northwest Germany.
Salzburg	Salzburg	Austrian province
Schlesien	Silesia	former German province now the Polish region of Śląsk
Schleswig	Schleswig	transitional area between Danish and German speakers
Schleswig-Holstein	Schleswig-Holstein	northern peninsula of German, with a mixed German-Danish population, with a little Frisian, controlled by Denmark for a time
die Schweiz	Switzerland	Alpine country; most Swiss speak their own type of German, some speak French, a few speak Italian or Romansch.
Siebenbürgen	Transylvania	German-speaking mountain region of central Rumania
Sorben	Sorbs	pocket of Slavic population in eastern Germany
Steiern	Styria	Alpine region of Austria
das Sudetenland	the Sudetenland	formerly German-speaking rim of what is now the Czech Republic
Thüringen	Thuringia	central German region
Tirol	Tyrol	Austrian Alpine region, extending into Italy
Ungarn	Hungary	Hungary was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, but only a small fraction of Hungary was German-speaking.
Vlanderen	Flanders	Dutch name for Flanders
Vorarlberg	Vorarlberg	Austrian Province on the Swiss and German border
Vorpommern	Western Pomerania	former German region on the Baltic Sea
Westfalen	Westfalia	northwestern German region near the Netherlands
Westpreußen/Westpreussen	West Prussia	former region of mixed Polish-German population
Wends	Wenden/ Sorbs	pocket of Slavic population in eastern Germany, usually called Sorbs (see Sorben)
Wien	Vienna	capital of Austria
die Wolgadeutschen	the Volga Germans	Germans who settled by Russia's Volga River in the 1700's
Württemberg	Wuerttemberg	a southwest German state

